UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, et al,

Plaintiffs,

: Case No. 00 Civ. 2800 : (LMM) (GWG)

-against-

UNITED HEALTH CORPORATION, et al.

Defendants.

RESPONSE TO MOTION TO REQUIRE POSTING OF APPEAL BONDS PURSUANT TO F.R.A.P. 7

- 1. My name is Charmain Schuh. I received two notices of the proposed class action settlement, both of which stated that I could write to the Court about why I do not agree with the settlement. I did that. I also filed a Notice of Appeal that I downloaded from the Court's website, and I paid the \$455 filing fee through the pro se office. The lawyers for the Class Plaintiffs are now trying to force me to pay a \$20,000 bond to exercise these legal rights. This new condition to exercise my legal rights was never disclosed in the notice of the proposed class action settlement or anywhere else before now. If I am forced to pay a \$20,000 bond, I will probably have to withdraw my appeal.
- 2. I have a Master's Degree and I write grants for a non-profit. My salary is \$35,000 per year. This is the only time I have objected to a class action settlement. I did so in good faith following the procedures set forth in the two notices I received.
- 3. Upon reading Class Plaintiffs' Memorandum of Law in Support of the Motion, I was struck by the conundrum presented by Class Plaintiffs' argument: If I file an objection on my own, I am characterized as not prepared to mount a serious appeal because I am pro se. On the other hand, if I were to have hired a lawyer experienced in filing an objection, my lawyer would have been characterized as a professional objector and my appeal would be considered filed in bad faith. Apparently there is no way to appeal a class action settlement without being subject to ridicule and the imposition of a bond that is cost prohibitive.
- 4. I have recently arranged for a lawyer to represent me on appeal. I now understand that a bond under F.R.A.P. 7 is discretionary and a request for such a bond can be denied. The only purpose of the bond is to ensure payment of costs on appeal. There are a number of objectors who are appealing this class action settlement. There is no indication by or from any objector that the costs on appeal will not be paid if assessed. There is no reason to impose such a bond, particularly when Class Plaintiffs appear to be trying to impose the entire costs of appeal on each objector as if he or she were the only objector filing an appeal, all designed to make the appeal cost prohibitive.

Charmain Schuh 303-664-5548

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, et al, Plaintiffs, Case No. 00 Civ. 2800 Plaintiffs, (LMM) (GWG) -against UNITED HEALTH CORPORATION, et al. Defendants.

CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE

I, Charmain Schuh, do hereby certify that on December 3, 2010 I served my Response to Motion to Require Posting of Appeal Bonds Pursuant to F.R.A.P. 7 by mailing it to the following:

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